Office of the Secretary

13 CFR Ch. III

15 CFR Subtitle A; Subtitle B, Chs. I, II, III, VII, VIII, IX, and XI

19 CFR Ch. III

37 CFR Chs. I, IV, and V

48 CFR Ch. 13

50 CFR Chs. II, III, IV, and VI

Fall 2021 Semiannual Agenda of Regulations

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Commerce.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Executive Order 12866, entitled "Regulatory Planning and Review," and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, as amended, the Department of Commerce (Commerce), in the spring and fall of each year, publishes in the **Federal Register** an agenda of regulations under development or review over the next 12 months. Rulemaking actions are grouped according to pre-rulemaking, proposed rules, final rules, long-term actions, and rulemaking actions completed since the spring 2022 agenda. The purpose of the Agenda is to provide information to the public on regulations that are currently under review, being proposed, or recently issued by Commerce. It is expected that this information will enable the public to participate more effectively in the Department's regulatory process.

Commerce's fall 2022 regulatory agenda includes regulatory activities that are expected to be conducted during the period November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Specific: For additional information about specific regulatory actions listed in the agenda, contact the individual identified as the contact person.

General: Comments or inquiries of a general nature about the agenda should be directed to Candida Harty, Chief Counsel for Regulation, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: 202-482-3410.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Commerce hereby publishes its fall 2022 Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions pursuant to Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq. Executive Order 12866 requires agencies to publish an agenda of

those regulations that are under consideration. By memorandum of September 2, 2022, the Office of Management and Budget issued guidelines and procedures for the preparation and publication of the fall 2022 Unified Agenda. The Regulatory Flexibility Act requires agencies to publish, in the spring and fall of each year, a regulatory flexibility agenda that contains a brief description of the subject of any rule likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

The Internet is the basic means for disseminating the Unified Agenda. The complete Unified Agenda is available online at www.reginfo.gov, in a format that offers users a greatly enhanced ability to obtain information from the Agenda database.

In this edition of Commerce's regulatory agenda, a list of the most important significant regulatory and deregulatory actions and a Statement of Regulatory Priorities are included in the Regulatory Plan, which appears in both the online Unified Agenda and in part II of the issue of the **Federal Register** that includes the Unified Agenda.

Because publication in the **Federal Register** is mandated for the regulatory flexibility agendas required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Commerce's printed agenda entries include only:

- (1) Rules that are in the Agency's regulatory flexibility agenda, in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act, because they are likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities; and
- (2) Rules that the Agency has identified for periodic review under section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Printing of these entries is limited to fields that contain information required by the Regulatory

Flexibility Act's Agenda requirements. Additional information on these entries is available in the Unified Agenda published on the Internet. In addition, for fall editions of the Agenda, Commerce's entire Regulatory Plan will continue to be printed in the **Federal Register**.

Within Commerce, the Office of the Secretary and various operating units may issue regulations.

Among these operating units, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Bureau of Industry and Security, and the Patent and Trademark Office issue the greatest share of Commerce's regulations.

A large number of regulatory actions reported in the Agenda deal with fishery management programs of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). To avoid repetition of programs and definitions, as well as to provide some understanding of the technical and institutional elements of NMFS' programs, an "Explanation of Information Contained in NMFS Regulatory Entries" is provided below.

Explanation of Information Contained in NMFS Regulatory Entries

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) (the Act) governs the management of fisheries within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States (EEZ). The EEZ refers to those waters from the outer edge of the State boundaries, generally 3 nautical miles, to a distance of 200 nautical miles. For fisheries that require conservation and management measures, eight Regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils) prepare and submit to NMFS Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for the fisheries within their respective areas in the EEZ. Membership of these Councils is comprised of representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing sectors in addition to environmental, academic, and government interests. Council members are nominated by the governors and ultimately appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Councils are required by law to conduct public hearings on the development of FMPs and FMP amendments. Consistent with applicable law, environmental and other analyses are developed that consider alternatives to proposed actions.

Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Councils also recommend actions to NMFS deemed necessary or appropriate to implement FMPs. The proposed regulations, FMPs, and FMP amendments are subject to review and approval by NMFS, based on consistency with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other applicable law. The Council process for developing FMPs and amendments makes it difficult for NMFS to determine the significance and timing of some regulatory actions under consideration by the Councils at the time the semiannual regulatory agenda is published.

Commerce's fall 2022 regulatory agenda follows.

Leslie Kiernan,

General Counsel.

General Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
252	Securing the Information and Communications Technology and	0605-AA60
	Services Supply Chain: Licensing Procedures	
253	Taking Additional Steps to Address the National Emergency With	0605-AA61
	Respect to Significant Malicious Cyber-Enabled Activities	

General Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
254	Securing the Information and Communications Technology and	0605-AA51
	Services Supply Chain	

International Trade Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
255	Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and	0625-AB21
	Estimated Duties in Accord with Presidential Proclamation 10414	

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
256	International Fisheries; South Pacific Tuna Fisheries;	0648-BG04
	Implementation of Amendments to the South Pacific Tuna Treaty	
257	Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Research and Data Collection	0648-BI10
	in Support of Spatial Fisheries Management	
258	Amendment 122 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish	0648-BL08
	of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; Pacific	
	Cod Trawl Cooperative Program	
259	Amendment 123 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish	0648-BL42
	of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area;	
	Halibut Abundance-Based Management of Amendment 80	
	Prohibited Species Catch Limit	
260	Revisions to Federal Regulations to Economic Data Reporting	0648-BL50
	Requirements for Groundfish and Crab Fisheries off Alaska and	
	Amendment 52 to the Fishery Management Plan for BSAI King	
	and Tanner Crabs	
261	Designation of Critical Habitat for Threatened Indo-Pacific Reef-	0648-BJ52
	Building Corals	

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
262	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing; Fisheries	0648-BG11
	Enforcement; High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection	
	Act (Reg Plan Seq No. 17)	

263	Regulatory Amendment to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery	0648-BH70
	Management Plan to Implement an Electronic Monitoring	
	Program for Bottom Trawl and Non-Whiting Midwater Trawl	
	Vessels	
264	Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management	0648-BH87
	Act; Traceability Information Program for Seafood	
265	Atlantic Highly Migratory Species: Amendment 13 on Bluefin	0648-BI08
	Tuna Management	
266	Amendment 23 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery	0648-BK17
	Management Plan	
267	2023-2024 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures for	0648-BL48
	the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery	
268	Amendment and Updates to the Pelagic Longline Take Reduction	0648-BF90
	Plan	
269	Designation of Critical Habitat for the Threatened Caribbean	0648-BG26
	Corals	
270	Amendments to the North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strike	0648-BI88
	Reduction Rule (Reg Plan Seq No. 18)	
271	Establishment of Time-Area Closures for Hawaiian Spinner	0648-BK04
	Dolphins Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act	

References in boldface appear in The Regulatory Plan in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
272	Amendment 14 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon	0648-BK31
	Fisheries in the EEZ Off Alaska	

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
273	Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for Puerto Rico,	0648-BD32
	Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for St. Croix,	
	Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for St. Thomas/St.	
	John	
274	International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for	0648-BF41
	Highly Migratory Species; Treatment of U.S. Purse Seine Fishing	
	With Respect to U.S. Territories	
275	Establish National Insurance Requirements for Observer	0648-BJ33
	Providers	
276	Implementation of Resolutions C-21-04 and C-21-06 of the Inter-	0648-BK84
	American Tropical Tuna Commission for Tropical Tuna and Silky	
	Shark Conservation	
277	Framework Adjustment 63 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery	0648-BL12
	Management Plan	
278	Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Rule to Modify the Retention	0648-BL17
	Limit of Shortfin Mako Sharks	
279	Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Modifications to	0648-BJ09
	Reduce Serious Injury and Mortality of Large Whales in	
	Commercial Trap/Pot Fisheries Along the U.S. East Coast	

Patent and Trademark Office—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
280	Setting and Adjusting Trademark Fees (Reg Plan Seq No. 19)	0651-AD65

References in boldface appear in The Regulatory Plan in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

Patent and Trademark Office—Long-Term Actions

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
281	Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees	0651-AD64

Patent and Trademark Office—Completed Actions

Sequence	Title	Regulation
Number		Identifier
		Number
282	Changes To Implement Provisions of the Trademark	0651-AD55
	Modernization Act of 2020	

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Proposed Rule Stage
General Administration (ADMIN)	

252. SECURING THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES

SUPPLY CHAIN: LICENSING PROCEDURES [0605-AA60]

Legal Authority: Not Yet Determined

Abstract: The Department is seeking public input regarding establishing a licensing process for entities to seek pre-approval before engaging in or continuing to engage in potentially regulated ICTS

Transactions under the "Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain" rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	03/29/21	86 FR 16312
ANPRM Comment Period	04/28/21	
End		

NPRM	05/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Joseph Bartels, Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW,

Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-1595

Email: jbartels@doc.gov

RIN: 0605-AA60

253. TAKING ADDITIONAL STEPS TO ADDRESS THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT MALICIOUS CYBER-ENABLED ACTIVITIES [0605-AA61]

Legal Authority: Not Yet Determined

Abstract: Executive Order 13984 of January 19, 2021, entitled Taking Additional Steps to Address the National Emergency with Respect to Significant Malicious Cyber-Enabled Activities (EO 13984), has directed the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to implement regulations that would govern the process and procedures that the Secretary will use to deter foreign malicious cyber actors' use of United States Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) products and assist in the investigation of transactions involving foreign malicious cyber actors.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/24/21	86 FR 53018
ANPRM Comment Period	10/25/21	
End		
NPRM	06/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Joseph Bartels, Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW,

Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-1595

Email: jbartels@doc.gov

RIN: 0605-AA61

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Final Rule Stage
General Administration (ADMIN)	

254. SECURING THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES SUPPLY CHAIN [0605-AA51]

Legal Authority: 50 U.S.C. 1701; 3 U.S.C. 301

Abstract: Pursuant to Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019, Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain," (Executive Order) the Department of Commerce (the Department) is implementing the process and procedures that the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) will use to identify, assess, and address transactions that pose an undue risk to the security, integrity, and reliability of information and communications technology and services provided and used in the United States.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/27/19	84 FR 65316
NPRM Comment Period	12/27/19	
End		
Interim Final Rule	01/19/21	86 FR 4909
Interim Final Rule	03/22/21	
Comment Period End		
Interim Final Rule Effective	03/22/21	
Date		
Final Action	04/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Joseph Bartels, Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW,

Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-1595

Email: jbartels@doc.gov

RIN: 0605-AA51

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Final Rule Stage
International Trade Administration (ITA)	

255. • PROCEDURES COVERING SUSPENSION OF LIQUIDATION, DUTIES AND ESTIMATED DUTIES IN ACCORD WITH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 10414 [0625-AB21]

Legal Authority: Proc 10414, 87 FR 35067; 19 USC 1318

Abstract: In accordance with Presidential Proclamation 10414 and pursuant to its authority under Section 318(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), the Department of Commerce (Commerce) is issuing this final rule to implement Proclamation 10414. Specifically, Commerce is issuing a new rule that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary or final determination in the antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) circumvention inquiries described below, under Title VII of the Act, extends the time for, and waives, the suspension of liquidation, the application of certain AD/CVD duties, and the collection of cash deposits on applicable entries of certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules, that are completed in the Kingdom of Cambodia (Cambodia), Malaysia, the Kingdom of Thailand (Thailand), and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) using parts and components manufactured in the People's Republic of China (China), and that are not already subject to an antidumping or countervailing duty order.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/01/22	87 FR 39426
NPRM Comment Period	08/01/22	
End		
Final Action	09/16/22	87 FR 56868
Final Action Effective	11/15/22	
Next Action Undetermined	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Nikki Kalbing, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration,

Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 717-3147

Email: nikki.kalbing@trade.gov

RIN: 0625-AB21

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Proposed Rule Stage
National Oceanic and Atmospheric	
Administration (NOAA)	

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

256. INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES; SOUTH PACIFIC TUNA FISHERIES; IMPLEMENTATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC TUNA TREATY [0648-BG04]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 973 et seq.

Abstract: Under authority of the South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988, this rule would implement recent amendments to the Treaty on Fisheries between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America (also known as the South Pacific Tuna Treaty). The rule would include modification to the procedures used to request licenses for U.S. vessels in the western and central Pacific Ocean purse seine fishery, including changing the annual licensing period from June-to-June to the calendar year, and modifications to existing reporting requirements for purse seine vessels fishing in the western and central Pacific Ocean. The rule would implement only those aspects of the Treaty amendments that can be implemented under the existing South Pacific Tuna Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Michael Tosatto, Regional Administrator, Pacific Islands Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176,

Honolulu, HI 96818

Phone: 808 725-5000

Email: michael.tosatto@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BG04

257. ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES; RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION IN **SUPPORT OF SPATIAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT [0648-BI10]**

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: This rulemaking would address conducting research in areas currently closed to fishing for Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS)--during various times or by certain gear-- to collect fisherydependent data. A number of time/area closures or gear-restricted areas have been implemented over the years through various rulemakings, limiting fishing for Atlantic highly migratory species in those areas for a variety of reasons including reducing bycatch. These time/area closures have been implemented in consultation with the HMS Advisory Panel to protect species consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (e.g., to reduce bycatch in the pelagic longline fishery off the east coast of Florida), the Endangered Species Act (e.g., to protect sea turtles in the North Atlantic), and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (e.g., to protect spawning bluefin tuna in the Gulf of Mexico). Fishery-dependent data supports effective fisheries management, and areas that restrict fishing effort often have a commensurate decrease in fishery-dependent data collection. Programs to facilitate research and data collection, such as those that would be covered by this rulemaking, could assess the efficacy of closed areas, improve sustainable management of highly migratory species, and may provide benefits to commercial and recreational fishermen.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kelly Denit, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13362, Silver Spring,

MD 20901

Phone: 301 427-8500

Email: kelly.denit@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BI10

258. AMENDMENT 122 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GROUNDFISH OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS MANAGEMENT AREA; PACIFIC COD TRAWL **COOPERATIVE PROGRAM [0648-BL08]**

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: In response to a recommendation by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, this proposed action would implement Amendment 122 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI). If approved by the Secretary of Commerce and implemented by NMFS, the Pacific cod Trawl Cooperative Program (PCTC Program) would allocate quota share (QS) to groundfish License Limitation Program (LLP) license holders based on the harvest of BSAI Pacific cod during qualifying years. This Program would also allocate QS to a processor permit holder based on processing history during the qualifying years. QS allocated under this program would yield an exclusive harvest privilege to members of a PCTC Program cooperative. The Council's intent in recommending Amendment 122 is to improve the prosecution of the fishery by promoting safety and stability in the harvesting and processing sectors, increasing the value of the fishery, minimizing bycatch to the extent practicable, providing for the sustained participation of fishery dependent communities, and ensuring the sustainability and viability of the Pacific cod resource in the BSAI. The Council initiated action on this Limited Access Privilege Program (LAPP) in response to industry requests to address increasing inefficiency in the BSAI Pacific cod trawl catcher vessel sector by implementing a catch share program. Owners and operators of harvesters and processors that participate in the BSAI Pacific cod trawl fishery would be affected by this action. Section 304(b)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is the rulemaking authority. Section 303A of the MSA authorizes the creation of LAPPs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Jon Kurland, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 709 West Ninth Street, Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907 586-7638

Email: jon.kurland@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BL08

259. AMENDMENT 123 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GROUNDFISH OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS MANAGEMENT AREA; HALIBUT ABUNDANCE-BASED MANAGEMENT OF AMENDMENT 80 PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH LIMIT [0648-BL42]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: In response to a recommendation by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), this proposed action would implement Amendment 123 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI). If approved by the Secretary of Commerce and implemented by NMFS, this action would determine the BSAI Amendment 80 commercial groundfish trawl fleet's (A80) halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) limit annually based on the most recent values from surveys conducted by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). The Council's intent in recommending Amendment 123 is to link annual halibut PSC limits in the A80 fleet with estimated halibut abundance. The reason for the change being considered is that the current PSC limit, currently set as a fixed annual amount of 1,745 mt, becomes an increasingly larger proportion of total halibut removals in the BSAI when halibut abundance declines. Over the last 6 years, the Council and its advisory bodies, stakeholders, and the public have considered several approaches for a halibut abundance-based management (ABM) program consistent with Council fishery management objectives and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). Public testimony on this action over the years has focused on two primary concerns. The first is the importance of providing flexibility to the A80 fleet to prosecute their quotas. The second is concern about the decline in the directed halibut fishery catch as a result of a decline in halibut abundance, compounded by fixed PSC limits that further reduce the proportion of halibut available to the directed halibut fisheries.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Jon Kurland, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 709 West Ninth Street, Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907 586-7638

Email: jon.kurland@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BL42

260. • REVISIONS TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS TO ECONOMIC DATA REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUNDFISH AND CRAB FISHERIES OFF ALASKA AND AMENDMENT 52
TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BSAI KING AND TANNER CRABS [0648-BL50]
Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: In response to a recommendation by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), this proposed action would implement Amendment 52 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) and revise Federal regulations to economic data reporting (EDR) requirements for groundfish and crab fisheries off Alaska. If approved by the Secretary of Commerce and implemented by NMFS, this action would remove third party data verification audits and blind formatting requirements for the BSAI crab fisheries EDR, the Bering Sea American Fisheries Act (AFA) pollock fishery Chinook Salmon EDR, and the BSAI Amendment 80 fisheries EDR. This action would also eliminate the EDR requirements for the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) trawl fisheries. The EDRs provide information for program evaluation and analysis of proposed conservation and management measures. The third party data verification audits and blind formatting provisions require a higher standard of confidentiality for proprietary business information than apply to all other confidential fisheries information. These provisions have proven to reduce the usability of the data for analysis and to increase the cost of the data collection programs without providing additional practical protections. The GOA Trawl EDR program, implemented in 2015, was designed to collect baseline information to assess the impacts of a future catch share program. However, no catch share program for the GOA trawl fleet has been implemented to date. The Council initiated this action to improve the usability, efficiency, and consistency of the data collection programs and minimize cost to industry and the Federal government while still maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the data collection program. Owners and operators of harvesters and processors in the BSAI crab fisheries, the AFA pollock fishery, the Amendment 80 fisheries, and the GOA trawl fisheries would be affected by this action. Section 304(b)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act is the rulemaking authority.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/01/22	87 FR 65724

NPRM Comment Period	12/01/22	
End		
Final Action	01/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Jon Kurland, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 709 West Ninth Street, Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907 586-7638

Email: jon.kurland@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BL50

261. DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THREATENED INDO-PACIFIC REEF-BUILDING CORALS [0648-BJ52]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

Abstract: On September 10, 2014, NMFS listed 20 species of reef-building corals as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, 15 in the Indo-Pacific and five in the Caribbean. Of the 15 Indo-Pacific species, seven occur in U.S. waters of the Pacific Islands Region, including in American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands, and the Pacific Remote Island Areas. This proposed rule would designate critical habitat for the seven species in U.S. waters (*Acropora globiceps, Acropora jacquelineae, Acropora retusa, Acropora speciosa, Euphyllia paradivisa, Isopora crateriformis*, and *Seriatopora aculeata*). A separate proposed rule will designate critical habitat for the listed Caribbean coral species. The proposed designation may cover coral reef habitat around 13 island or atoll units in the Pacific Islands Region, including three in American Samoa, one in Guam, seven in the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands, and two in Pacific Remote Island Areas, containing essential features that support reproduction, growth, and survival of the listed coral species. NMFS has contacted the Departments of the Navy, Air Force, and Army as well as the U.S. Coast Guard requesting information related to potential national security impacts that may result from the critical habitat designation. Based on information provided, we will determine whether to propose to exclude any areas based on national security impacts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/27/20	85 FR 76262

NPRM Comment Period	01/26/21	
End		
NPRM Comment Period	12/23/20	85 FR 83899
Extended		
NPRM Comment Period	02/25/21	
Extended End		
Second NPRM Comment	02/09/21	86 FR 8749
Period Extended		
Second Extended	03/27/21	
Comment Period End		
Third NPRM Comment	03/29/21	86 FR 16325
Period Extended		
Third NPRM Comment	05/26/21	
Period Extended End		
Second NPRM	06/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kim Damon-Randall, Director, Office of Protected Resources, Department of

Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring,

MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8400

Email: kimberly.damon-randall@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BJ52

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Final Rule Stage
National Oceanic and Atmospheric	
Administration (NOAA)	

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

262. ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGULATED FISHING; FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT; HIGH SEAS DRIFTNET FISHING MORATORIUM PROTECTION ACT [0648-BG11]

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 17 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0648-BG11

263. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO THE PACIFIC COAST GROUNDFISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN TO IMPLEMENT AN ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM FOR BOTTOM TRAWL AND NON-WHITING MIDWATER TRAWL VESSELS [0648-BH70]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: The proposed action would implement a regulatory amendment to the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan to allow bottom trawl and midwater trawl vessels targeting non-whiting species the option to use electronic monitoring (video cameras and associated sensors) in place of observers to meet requirements for 100-percent observer coverage. By allowing vessels the option to use electronic monitoring to meet monitoring requirements, this action is intended to increase operational flexibility and reduce monitoring costs for the fleet.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/01/22	87 FR 11382
NPRM Comment Period	03/31/22	
End		
Final Action	10/03/22	87 FR 59705
Final Action Effective	11/02/22	
Next Action Undetermined	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Scott Rumsey, Acting Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100,

Portland, OR 97232

Phone: 503 872-2791

Email: scott.rumsey@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BH70

264. MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT;
TRACEABILITY INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR SEAFOOD [0648-BH87]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.; Pub. L. 115-141

Abstract: On December 9, 2016, NMFS issued a final rule that established a risk-based traceability program to track seafood from harvest to entry into U.S. commerce. The final rule included, for designated priority fish species, import permitting and reporting requirements to provide for traceability of seafood products offered for entry into the U.S. supply chain, and to ensure that these products were lawfully acquired and are properly represented. Shrimp and abalone products were included in the final rule to implement the Seafood Import Monitoring Program, but compliance with Seafood Import Monitoring Program requirements for those species was stayed indefinitely due to the disparity between Federal reporting programs for domestic aquaculture of shrimp and abalone products relative to the requirements that would apply to imports under Seafood Import Monitoring Program. In section 539 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, Congress mandated lifting the stay on inclusion of shrimp and abalone in Seafood Import Monitoring Program and authorized the Secretary of Commerce to require comparable reporting and recordkeeping requirements for domestic aquaculture of shrimp and abalone. This rulemaking would establish permitting, reporting and recordkeeping requirements for domestic producers of shrimp and abalone from the point of production to entry into commerce.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/11/18	83 FR 51426
NPRM Comment Period	11/26/18	
End		
Final Action	03/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Alexa Cole, Director, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection,

Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway,

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8286

Email: alexa.cole@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BH87

265. ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES: AMENDMENT 13 ON BLUEFIN TUNA

MANAGEMENT [0648-BI08]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: NOAA/NMFS proposes to revise the management measures for Atlantic bluefin tuna fisheries.

Potential management measures could include modifications to pelagic longline and purse seine fisheries

as well as other bluefin tuna fisheries, which would increase flexibility for fishery participants.

Timetable:

Action Date FR Cite **NPRM** 05/21/21 86 FR 27686

NPRM Comment Period 07/20/21

End

NPRM Comment Period 07/20/21 86 FR 38262

Extended

NPRM Comment Period 09/09/21

Extended End

Final Action 10/03/22 87 FR 59966

Final Action Effective 01/01/23

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kelly Denit, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13362, Silver Spring,

MD 20901

Phone: 301 427-8500

Email: kelly.denit@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BI08

266. AMENDMENT 23 TO THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN [0648-

BK17]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: This action proposes measures recommended by the New England Fishery Management

Council in Amendment 23 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. The Council

developed this action to implement measures to improve the reliability and accountability of catch

reporting in the commercial groundfish fishery to ensure there is a precise and accurate representation of catch (landings and discards). The purpose of this action is to adjust the existing industry-funded monitoring program to improve accounting and accuracy of collected catch data. Specifically, this action would set a fixed target coverage rate as a percentage of fishing trips to replace the current annual method for calculating a coverage target. This action would exclude from the monitoring requirement all trips in geographic areas with low groundfish catch; allow for increased coverage when federal funding is available to reimburse industry's costs; set a baseline coverage target for which there is no reimbursement for industry's costs in the absence of federal funding; approve electronic monitoring technologies as an alternative to human at-sea monitors; require periodic evaluation of the monitoring program; allow for waivers from monitoring for good cause; and grant authority to the Northeast Regional Administrator to streamline industry's reporting requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/28/22	87 FR 11014
NPRM Comment Period	03/30/22	
End		
Final Action	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Michael Pentony, Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

Phone: 978 281-9283

Email: michael.pentony@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BK17

267. • 2023-2024 HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE PACIFIC COAST GROUNDFISH FISHERY [0648-BL48]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: Every other year, the Pacific Fishery Management Council makes recommendations to set biennial allowable harvest levels for Pacific Coast groundfish, and recommends management measures for commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries that are designed to achieve those harvest levels

consistent with the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. For the 202324 biennium, the Pacific Fishery Management Council has recommended: Harvest specifications, including overfishing limits, acceptable biological catches, and annual catch limits; and Management measures to achieve those specifications. The specifications and management measures that would be forwarded by this action would be in effect from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) would implement this rulemaking under the authority of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/14/22	87 FR 62676
NPRM Comment Period	11/14/22	
End		
Final Action	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Scott Rumsey, Acting Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100,

Portland, OR 97232

Phone: 503 872-2791

Email: scott.rumsey@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BL48

268. AMENDMENT AND UPDATES TO THE PELAGIC LONGLINE TAKE REDUCTION PLAN [0648-BF90]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.

Abstract: Serious injury and mortality of the Western North Atlantic short-finned pilot whale stock incidental to the Category I Atlantic pelagic longline fishery continues at levels exceeding their Potential Biological Removal. This proposed action would examine a number of management measures to amend the Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Plan to reduce the incidental mortality and serious injury of short-finned pilot whales taken in the Atlantic Pelagic Longline fishery to below Potential Biological Removal. Potential management measures may include changes to the current limitations on mainline length, new requirements to use weak hooks (hooks with reduced breaking strength), and non-regulatory measures

related to determining the best procedures for safe handling and release of marine mammals. The need for the proposed action is to ensure the Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Plan meets its Marine Mammal Protection Act mandated short- and long-term goals.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/15/20	85 FR 81168
NPRM Comment Period	02/16/21	
End		
Final Action	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kim Damon-Randall, Director, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8400

Email: kimberly.damon-randall@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BF90

269. DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THE THREATENED CARIBBEAN CORALS [0648-BG26]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.

Abstract: NMFS listed 5 Caribbean corals as threatened under the Endangered Species Act on October 10, 2014. Critical habitat shall be designated to the maximum extent prudent and determinable at the time a species is proposed for listing (50 CFR 424.12). We concluded that critical habitat was not determinable for the 5 corals at the time of listing. However, we anticipated that critical habitat would be determinable in the future given on-going research. We, therefore, announced in the final listing rules that we would propose critical habitat in separate rulemakings. This rule proposes to designate critical habitat for the 5 Caribbean coral species listed in 2014. A separate proposed critical habitat rule is being prepared for the 15 Indo-Pacific corals listed as threatened in 2014. The proposed designation for the Caribbean corals may include marine waters in Florida, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Navassa Island, and Flower Garden Banks containing essential features that support all stages of life history of the corals. The proposed rule is not likely to have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more or

adversely affect the economy. NMFS has contacted the Departments of the Navy, Air Force, and Army as well as the U.S. Coast Guard requesting information related to potential national security impacts that may result from the critical habitat designation. Based on information provided, we concluded that there will be an impact on national security in only 1 area offshore Dania Beach, FL, and will propose to exclude it from the designations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/27/20	85 FR 76302
NPRM Comment Period	01/26/21	
End		
Final Rule	06/00/23	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kim Damon-Randall, Director, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8400

Email: kimberly.damon-randall@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BG26

270. AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE VESSEL STRIKE REDUCTION RULE [0648-BI88]

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 18 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0648-BI88

271. ESTABLISHMENT OF TIME-AREA CLOSURES FOR HAWAIIAN SPINNER DOLPHINS UNDER THE MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT [0648-BK04]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1382 et seq.

Abstract: This rulemaking action under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) proposes to establish mandatory time-area closures of Hawaiian spinner dolphins' essential daytime habitats at five selected sites in the Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI). In considering public comments in response to a separate

proposed rule related to spinner dolphin interactions (81 FR 57854), NMFS intends these regulatory measures to prevent take of Hawaiian spinner dolphins from occurring in inshore marine areas at essential daytime habitats, and where high levels of disturbance from human activities are most prevalent.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/28/21	86 FR 53844
NPRM Comment Period	12/27/21	
End		
Final Action	12/00/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kim Damon-Randall, Director, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8400

Email: kimberly.damon-randall@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BK04

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Long-Term Actions
National Oceanic and Atmospheric	
Administration (NOAA)	

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

272. AMENDMENT 14 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SALMON FISHERIES IN THE EEZ OFF ALASKA [0648-BK31]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: This action would modify the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska (FMP) and implement regulations to manage the EEZ waters of Cook Inlet under the FMP and prohibit commercial fishing for salmon in this area. Currently, this area is excluded from the FMP and the

State of Alaska manages commercial fishing for salmon in this area. If approved, this action would result in all commercial salmon fishing in Cook Inlet occurring within waters of the State of Alaska under State management plans. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) determined that this action is consistent with the Council's longstanding policy to facilitate management of salmon fishing by the State of Alaska and that the State is the authority best suited for managing Alaska salmon fisheries given its existing infrastructure and expertise. The Council considered, but did not select, two other action alternatives that would delegate management of the Cook Inlet EEZ to the State of Alaska, or establish Council and NMFS management of the commercial salmon fishery within the area. The Council did not select either of these alternatives because the State of Alaska was unwilling to accept delegation of management authority, and due to the substantial increase in management complexity and cost without corresponding benefits of both alternatives.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/04/21	86 FR 29977
NPRM Comment Period	07/06/21	
End		
Final Action	11/03/21	86 FR 60568
Final Action Effective	12/03/21	
Next Action Undetermined	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Jon Kurland

Phone: 907 586-7638

Email: jon.kurland@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BK31

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Completed Actions
National Oceanic and Atmospheric	
Administration (NOAA)	

273. COMPREHENSIVE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PUERTO RICO, COMPREHENSIVE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ST. CROIX, COMPREHENSIVE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN [0648-BD32]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: In response to a recommendation of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council, this action would establish three new Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) (Puerto Rico FMP, St. Thomas/St. John FMP and St. Croix FMP) and repeal and replace the existing U.S. Caribbean-wide FMPs (the FMP for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI), the FMP for the Spiny Lobster Fishery of Puerto Rico and the USVI, the FMP for Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the USVI, and the FMP for the Corals and Reef Associated Plants and Invertebrates of Puerto Rico and the USVI). For each of the Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John, and St. Croix FMPs, the action would also modify the composition of the stocks to be managed; organize those stocks for effective management; establish status determination criteria, management reference points, and accountability measures for managed stocks; identify essential fish habitat for stocks new to management; and establish framework measures.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice of Availability	06/26/20	85 FR 38350
Comment Period End	08/25/20	
NPRM	05/19/22	87 FR 30730
NPRM Comment Period	06/21/22	
End		
Final Action	09/13/22	87 FR 56204
Final Action Effective	10/13/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Strelcheck, Acting Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg,

FL 33701

Phone: 727 824-5305

Email: andy.strelcheck@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BD32

274. INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES; WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES FOR HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES; TREATMENT OF U.S. PURSE SEINE FISHING WITH RESPECT TO U.S. TERRITORIES [0648-BF41]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.

Abstract: This action would establish rules and/or procedures to address the treatment of U.S.-flagged purse seine vessels and their fishing activities in regulations issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service that implement decisions of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Commission), of which the United States is a member. Under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act, the National Marine Fisheries Service exercises broad discretion when determining how it implements Commission decisions, such as purse seine fishing restrictions. The National Marine Fisheries Service intends to examine the potential impacts of the domestic implementation of Commission decisions, such as purse seine fishing restrictions, on the economies of the U.S. territories that participate in the Commission, and examine the connectivity between the activities of U.S.-flagged purse seine fishing vessels and the economies of the territories. Based on that and other information, the National Marine Fisheries Service might propose regulations that mitigate adverse economic impacts of purse seine fishing restrictions on the U.S. territories and/or that, in the context of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Convention), recognize that one or more of the U.S. territories have their own purse seine fisheries that are distinct from the purse seine fishery of the United States and that are consequently subject to special provisions of the Convention and of Commission decisions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	10/23/15	80 FR 64382
ANPRM Comment Period	11/23/15	
End		
Withdrawn	09/09/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Michael Tosatto, Regional Administrator, Pacific Islands Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818

Phone: 808 725-5000

Email: michael.tosatto@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BF41

275. ESTABLISH NATIONAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBSERVER PROVIDERS [0648-

BJ33]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1855(d)

Abstract: NMFS is proposing to establish uniform, nationally applicable minimum insurance requirements

for companies that provide observer or at-sea monitor services for federally managed fisheries subject to

monitoring requirements. This action would supersede outdated or inappropriate regulatory insurance

requirements thereby easing the regulatory and cost burden for observer/at-sea monitor providers.

Additionally, this action would mitigate potential liability risks associated with observer and at-sea monitor

deployments for vessel owners and shore side processors that are subject to monitoring requirements.

Timetable:

Action Date **FR Cite** NPRM 11/22/21 86 FR 66259 NPRM Comment Period 01/21/22 End Final Action 09/08/22 87 FR 54902

Final Action Effective 09/08/22

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Evan Howell, Director, Office of Science and Technology, National Marine Fisheries

Service, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West

Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8100

Email: evan.howell@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BJ33

276. IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS C-21-04 AND C-21-06 OF THE INTER-AMERICAN

TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION FOR TROPICAL TUNA AND SILKY SHARK CONSERVATION

[0648-BK84]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 951; 16 U.S.C. 952; 16 U.S.C. 953; 16 U.S.C. 954; ...

Abstract: The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) is expected to adopt by consensus a Resolution for Conservation Measures for Tropical Tunas in the Eastern Pacific Ocean in October 2021. The Resolution is binding for IATTC member nations, and under the Tuna Conventions Act, 16 U.S.C. 951 et seq. NMFS must implement the Resolution domestically. This proposed rule would implement the provisions for tropical tuna for 2022 and beyond. In addition to rolling over measures from the 2021 Resolution, this Resolution may include an increase in purse seine closure days, changes to force majeure provisions, updates to fish aggregating device measures. The Resolution is intended to prevent overfishing of tropical tuna (bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack) in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The following provisions that would be included in the proposed rule were also in the regulations implemented for 2021. The rule will continue to prohibit purse seine vessels of class sizes 4-6 (carrying capacity greater than 182 mt) from fishing for tropical tuna in the EPO for a period of at least 72 days. The rule would continue to require a closure of the fishery for yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack tunas by purse-seine vessels within the area of 96W and 110W and between 4°N and 3°S from 0000 hours on 9 October to 2400 hours on 8 November. The rule would carry over all provisions included in the Measures of the Longline Fishery and Other Provisions section of the Resolution. As of August 23, 2021, 17 U.S. purse seine vessels of class size 4-6 are registered to fish in the IATTC Convention Area that would be impacted by these measures. Owners and operators of these vessels are familiar with these measures. In addition to sending professional representatives and lobbyists, many personally attended the June and August IATTC Meetings and were closely involved in briefings and discussions with State Department and NMFS leadership and staff. The action is necessary for the United States to satisfy its international obligations as a Member of the IATTC. This rule is not expected to trigger either opposition from any sector of the public or congressional interest. This rule absorbs 0648-BK87.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/28/22	87 FR 17248
NPRM Comment Period	04/27/22	
End		
Final Action	07/08/22	87 FR 40731
Final Action Effective	07/25/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Scott Rumsey, Acting Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100,

Portland, OR 97232

Phone: 503 872-2791

Email: scott.rumsey@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BK84

277. FRAMEWORK ADJUSTMENT 63 TO THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN [0648-BL12]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Abstract: The action would implement management measures included in Framework Adjustment 63 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (Framework 63) that were developed by the New England Fishery Management Council in response to new scientific information, pursuant to the rulemaking authorities under section 303(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The action would set annual specifications for fishing years (FY) 2022-2024 for Gulf of Maine cod and Georges Bank (GB) cod, FY2022-2023 for GB yellowtail flounder, and FY2022 for white hake, and specify FY 2022 total allowable catches (TAC) for the three U.S./Canada stocks eastern GB cod, eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder. It would also adopt additional measures to promote stock rebuilding; and develop alternatives to the current default specifications system.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/20/22	87 FR 23482
NPRM Comment Period	05/05/22	
End		
Final Action	07/15/22	87 FR 42375
Final Action Effective	07/15/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Michael Pentony, Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

Phone: 978 281-9283

278. ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES; RULE TO MODIFY THE RETENTION LIMIT OF SHORTFIN MAKO SHARKS [0648-BL17]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.; 16 U.S.C. 971 et seq.

Abstract: Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries are managed under the dual authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA). This proposed rule would adopt management measures implementing a 2021 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) recommendation prohibiting retention of North Atlantic shortfin make sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries in 2022. Specifically, this action would propose implementing a flexible shortfin make shark retention limit with a default of zero in commercial and recreational HMS fisheries. This action is being taken pursuant to the rulemaking authority under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, section 305(d), and ATCA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/11/22	87 FR 21077
NPRM Comment Period	05/11/22	
End		
Final Action	07/01/22	87 FR 39373
Final Action Effective	07/05/22	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kelly Denit, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13362, Silver Spring,

MD 20901

Phone: 301 427-8500

Email: kelly.denit@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BL17

279. ATLANTIC LARGE WHALE TAKE REDUCTION PLAN MODIFICATIONS TO REDUCE SERIOUS INJURY AND MORTALITY OF LARGE WHALES IN COMMERCIAL TRAP/POT FISHERIES ALONG THE U.S. EAST COAST [0648-BJ09]

Legal Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1387 et seq.

Abstract: In response to recent recommendations from the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (TRT) to reduce the risk of North Atlantic right whale entanglement in commercial trap/pot fisheries along the U.S. East Coast, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) intends to propose regulations to amend the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (Plan).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/31/20	85 FR 86878
NPRM Comment Period	03/01/21	
End		
Final Action	09/17/21	86 FR 51970
Final Action Effective	10/18/21	
Final Action Correction	03/03/22	87 FR 11978
Final Action Correction	03/03/22	
Effective		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Kim Damon-Randall, Director, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-8400

Email: kimberly.damon-randall@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-BJ09

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Proposed Rule Stage
Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)	

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 19 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0651-AD65

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Long-Term Actions
Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)	

281. • SETTING AND ADJUSTING PATENT FEES [0651-AD64]

Legal Authority: Pub. L. 112-29

Abstract: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) takes this action to set and adjust Patent fee amounts to provide the Office with a sufficient amount of aggregate revenue to recover its aggregate cost of operations while helping the Office maintain a sustainable funding model, decrease patent pendency, and improve the reliability of issued patents.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/24	
NPRM Comment Period	04/00/24	
End		
Final Action	10/00/24	
Final Action Effective	12/00/24	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Brendan Hourigan, Director, Office of Planning and Budget, Department of Commerce,

Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Phone: 571 272-8966

Fax: 571 273-8966

Email: brendan.hourigan@uspto.gov

RIN: 0651-AD64

Department of Commerce (DOC)	Completed Actions	

Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)	

282. CHANGES TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE TRADEMARK MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2020 [0651-AD55]

Legal Authority: 15 U.S.C. 1066; 15 U.S.C. 1067; 15 U.S.C. 1113; 15 U.S.C. 1123; 35 U.S.C. 2; Pub. L. 112-29; Pub. L. 116-260

Abstract: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) amends the rules of practice in trademark cases to implement provisions of the Trademark Modernization Act of 2020. The rule establishes ex parte expungement and reexamination proceedings for cancellation of a registration when the required use in commerce of the registered mark has not been made; provides for a new nonuse ground for cancellation before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board; establishes flexible Office action response periods; and amends the existing letter-of-protest rule to indicate that letter-of-protest determinations are final and non-reviewable. The USPTO also sets fees for petitions requesting institution of ex parte expungement and reexamination proceedings, and for requests to extend Office action response deadlines. Amendments are also for the rules concerning the suspension of USPTO proceedings and the rules governing attorney recognition in trademark matters. Finally, a new rule is to address procedures regarding court orders cancelling or affecting registrations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/18/21	86 FR 26862
NPRM Comment Period	07/19/21	
End		
Final Action	11/17/21	86 FR 64300
Final Action Effective	12/18/21	
Correction; Delay of	10/13/22	87 FR 62032
Effective Date		
Correction; Delay of	10/07/23	
Effective Date Effective		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Agency Contact: Catherine Cain, Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure Editor, Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313

Phone: 571 272-8946

Fax: 751 273-8946

Email: catherine.cain@uspto.gov

RIN: 0651-AD55

BILLING CODE 3410-12-P

[FR Doc. 2023-02455 Filed: 2/21/2023 8:45 am; Publication Date: 2/22/2023]